

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on December 26, 2007. A petition for a three-month extension of time is attached so that the due date is to and including June 26, 2007.

An interview between the Examiner, the inventor, and the undersigned was conducted on May 28, 2007. Incorporation of the limitation in dependent claim 13 into the independent claims was discussed.

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-23 are rejected as being indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner objects to the language “capable of” and “alternatively.” Applicant submits that the phrases “capable of” and “alternatively” are used in many U.S. Patent claims and are clear. However, to expedite the prosecution, the language of the independent claims has been changed. *If the Examiner prefers some other claim language to address the indefiniteness rejection, Applicant requests that the Examiner call the undersigned to discuss mutually acceptable claim language.*

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-23 are being obvious in view of Mitsumaki (U.S. Patent no. 4,680,270) in view of Ricchio (U.S. Patent no. 5,130,095). This rejection is traversed for the reasons provided in Applicant’s Amendment filed on October 12, 2007. Those reasons are incorporated by reference.

As discussed during the interview, embodiments of the invention include a base unit and an analysis unit adapted to be disposed in a disconnected configuration wherein the analysis unit is separate from the base unit, or a connected configuration. This feature is not taught or suggested by the cited references. To further illustrate the ability of the analysis unit to function independently, the limitation “wherein the analysis unit power source comprises a rechargeable battery; and the base unit further comprises a battery charger connectable to the analysis unit power source” has been added to the independent claims. Applicants submit that the independent claims (and therefore the dependent claims) are clearly allowable over the cited

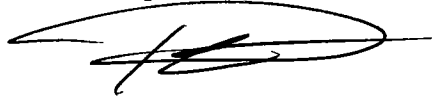
art, as the cited art fails to teach or suggest, not one, but at least two limitations in the independent claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick R. Jewik', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

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